

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2835

S E C R E T DAR ES SALAAM 3604

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR RH TZ

SUBJECT: TANZANIAN ATTITUDES ON RHODESIA

REF: (A) DAR ES SALAAM 3577, (B) STATE 239672 (LUSAKA 2584)

1. NYERERE MET (AT THEIR REQUEST) WITH AP, REUTERS, NYT, TIME, AND LOCAL NEWSMEN EVENING SEPTEMBER 28. WE HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE FIND FULL TRANSCRIPT. TEXT OF DETAILED STORY RUN BY DAR ES SALAAM DAILY NEWS BEING SENT SEPTTEL.

2. THEMES WERE VERY MUCH THE SAME AS THOSE EXPRESSED IN HIS SEPTEMBER 27 CONVERSATION WITH ME AND UK HIGH COMMISSIONER BROWN (REF A) WITH EMPHASIS ON NEED FOR PROMPT MOVEMENT BY UK AND UNACCEPTABILITY DETAILS SMITH'S PROPOSALS FOR COUNCIL OF STATE AND COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AS WELL AS SMITH'S HAVING MAJOR ROLE (ESPECIALLY AS CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL OF STATE) IN TRANSITION GOVERNMENT.

3. ON THE POSITIVE SIDE, NYERERE THIS TIME INDICATED THAT HE REJECTED ONLY "SOME" OF SMITH'S PROPOSALS AND REITERATED THAT WHAT WAS ACCEPTABLE WAS THE FORMATION OF A PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT WITH AN AFRICAN MAJORITY FOLLOWED BY INDEPENDENCE WITHIN TWO YEARS.

4. ON OTHER HAND, NYERERE SEEMED TO DRAW BACK FROM ANY EFFORT ON HIS PART TO INFLUENCE ZIMBABWEANS, SAYING HE COULD RIGHTLY BE DEEMED BY ZIMBABWEANS AS AN AGENT OF IMPERIALISM IF HE AGREED TO DISCUSS DETAILS OF THEIR COUNTRY. HE SAID, "IF SMITH SAYS

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THIS (I.E., THE EFFORT AT A PEACEFUL SOLUTION) IS OFF, WE WILL

GO ON (FIGHTING) FOR THE NEXT TEN YEARS."

5. NYERERE'S REFERENCES TO US ROLE REMAINED AMBIGUOUS BUT HE CLOSED WITH MILDLY UPBEAT NOTE THAT "SHOULD FORMATION OF A GENUINE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT TAKE PLACE WITHIN SIX WEEKS, THE KISSINGER INITIATIVES WOULD CERTAINLY BE A SUCCESS."

6. NEWSMEN WHO WERE PRESENT TELL US DAILY NEWS STORY IS PRETTY GOOD REPRESENTATION OF WHAT WAS ACTUALLY SAID, ALTHOUGH ONE OF THEM COMMENTS THAT "TONE" WAS, IF ANYTHING, A LITTLE BIT "TOUGHER" THAN REFLECTED IN DAILY NEWS ACCOUNT. FLAVOR IS ABOUT THE SAME AS WE HAD ENCOUNTERED WITH RELATIVELY FEW OFFICIALS WITH WHOM WE HAVE TALKED PRIVATELY. (USUAL FOREIGN OFFICE CONTACTS ARE ALL AWAY.) CERTAINLY SPIRIT HERE IS NOT ONE OF EXHILARATION AS IN LUSAKA (REF B). "PETULANCE" WOULD BE MY WORD AT MOMENT. BUT, AS FAR AS WE CAN JUDGE, PROCESS IS STILL REASONABLY SOLIDLY "ON TRACK."
SPAIN

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